

(12) **United States Patent**
Schneider

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(54) **TISSUE-REMOVING CATHETER
INCLUDING FORCE-TRANSMITTING
MEMBER FOR ACTUATING A CUTTER
HOUSING**

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See application file for complete search history.

(57)

ABSTRACT

A tissue-removing catheter includes a cutter. The catheter also includes a longitudinal force-transmitting member extending along a catheter body and being longitudinally movable relative to the catheter body. A distal end portion of the longitudinal force-transmitting member is operatively connected to a distal longitudinal portion of a cutter housing such that distal movement of the longitudinal force-transmitting member relative to the catheter body and the cutter imparts pivoting of the distal longitudinal portion to its open position to expose the cutter.

11 Claims, 55 Drawing Sheets

